

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 05245 181517 Z

44

ACTION OPIC-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 SSO-00 L-03 INR-10 CIAE-00

NSAE-00 AID-20 STR-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 INRE-00 /076 W
----- 118218

O R 181453 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 243

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 5245

FOR OPIC

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: OPIC PROGRAM IN VENEZUELA - CECIL HUNT VISIT

REF: STATE 116142

1. EVIDENTLY OPIC DID NOT RECEIVE MY LETTER TO MR. RUTHERFORD POATS OF JUNE 11 PRIOR TO DRAFTING REFTTEL CONCERNING VISIT OF DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL CECIL HUNT AND AD HOC OPIC POLICY IN VENEZUELA. PERTINENT SECTION MY LETTER TO POASTS FOLLOWS: " EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN FULL ACCORD WITH DECISION OF WASHINGTON TO HOLD IN ABEYANCE ALL NEW APPLICATIONS FOR OPIC INSURANCE IN VENEZUELA UNTIL AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED CONCERN-INT WHAT OUR GENERAL POLICY SHOULD BE HERE. (STATE 64786) A POLICY WHICH WOULD DISCRIMINATE IN FAVOR OF SOME OPIC APPLICATIONS WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY BOTH TO UNFAVORED AMERICAN APPLICANTS AS WELL AS TO THEIR VENEZUELAN ASSOCIATES. UNTIL WASHINGTON IS ABLE TO ESTABLISH A GENERAL POLICY, EMBASSY WOULD NOT WISH TO GIVE ITS APPROVAL FOR EXCEPTIONS GRANTED ON AD HOC BASIC, REGARDLESS OF HOW SPECIALLY TAILORED THY MIGHT BE FROM OPIC' S POINT OF VIEW."

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PAGE 02 CARACA 05245 181517 Z

2. WE BELIEVE HUNT'S VISIT WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY MORE USEFUL IF MADE AFTER OPIC ADOPTS GENERAL POLICY GUIDELINES CONCERNING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. IF NEVERTHELESS HUNT CHOOSES TO COME AT THIS TIME EMBASSY NATURALLY IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS PROGRAM AND WOULD SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT WITH OPIC SPECIAL COUNSEL THOMAS HUGHES. DR PEDRO CARMONA OF FOREIGN TRADE INSTITUTE HAS NOT YET RETURNED FROM U. S. BUT IS EXPECTED SHORTLY. AS I POINTED OUT IN MY LETTER, IT IS MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT AND CORDIPLAN WHICH CARRY WEIGHT WITHIN GOVERNMENT RE FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND OPIC IN PARTICULAR. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, WE CONSIDER IT ADVISABLE TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS WITH OTHER VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS ONLY AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBASSY AND HUGHES HAVE TAKEN PLACE.
MCCLINTOCK

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: n/a
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